

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
MEETING ROOM #113
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1999
2:45 P.M.**

Commissioners Present: Kathy Campbell, Chair
Linda Steinman
Bob Workman
Larry Hudkins

Commissioners Absent: Bernie Heier

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Dave Kroeker, Budget & Fiscal Officer
Diane Staab, Deputy County Attorney
Don Thomas, County Engineer
Bruce Medcalf, County Clerk
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy County Clerk
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF COUNTY BOARD STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1999

MOTION: Steinman moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the minutes. On call Steinman, Hudkins, Workman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a. Microcomputer Request from Corrections Department, in the amount of \$1,250 for an Imaging Upgrade for Y2K Compliance
- b. Microcomputer Request from County Treasurer, C#99058, in the amount of \$6,118.65 for 5 Compaq Deskpro Computers, from the County Treasurer's Budget
- c. Request from Sue Eckley, Workers' Compensation & Risk Management Manager, to Expend \$200 from the Wellness Budget for WorkWell Conference and Annual Meeting

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Workman seconded approval of the additions to the agenda. On call Hudkins, Workman, Steinman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

3 BELTWAY INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT - Jim Linderholm, HWS Consulting Group, Inc.; Roger Figard and V. A. Singh, Public Works

Roger Figard, Public Works, stated that the interlocal agreement between the Nebraska Department of Roads, County of Lancaster and the City of Lincoln for the South and East Beltway Corridor Study provided that the three entities would equally share in the \$1,260,808 cost. A Change Order is proposed that would increase that fee by \$147,500 to pay for costs incurred in Historical and Archaeological surveys in Phase 4 that were not included in the consultant contract.

Figard distributed copies of a Fact Sheet with regards to revision of the agreement and excerpts from the minutes of the Pre-City Council Meeting of February 17, 1998 and County Board of Commissioners Staff Meeting of February 19, 1998, in which the two bodies took action committing to Schedule Option 1 and this additional expense (Exhibit A). He noted that the Nebraska Department of Roads has agreed to fund their portion as well.

Steinman asked if funding will now be sufficient to complete the project.

Figard responded that additional funds may be necessary to complete Phases 5 and 6, although justification for any additional expense will be presented to the governing bodies.

Jim Linderholm, HWS Consulting Group, Inc., presented a brief update on the progress of the Beltway Study, noting work with the sponsor agencies (City Engineer, County Engineer, Nebraska Department of Roads and the Federal Highway Administration) on technical details, such as interchanges with major highways, to insure technical agreement between those agencies and concurrence with the Nebraska Department of Roads' long-term plans for the area. Coordination has also taken place with Lincoln Electric System (LES) with regards to plans to provide transmission line into Waverly this fall.

Linderholm indicated that an update on specific routes will be presented to the governing bodies and the sponsor agencies in June, 1999.

Workman asked whether specific flaws have been identified in the East Far Route.

Figard stated that a "fatal flaw" has not been detected in the East Far Route to date, although much of that interpretation will be left to the discretion of the Federal Highway Administration and the State Historical Preservation Office.

Linderholm stated that the study must comply with the National Environmental Protection Act's 106 and 4F Regulations and the taking of any historical or archeological property must be proven to be the only reasonable and prudent alternative. If a beltway alignment is selected that passes close to historically significant property, impact to that property must be assessed. Individual landowners may bring forth historic impact concerns and seek "consulting party" status.

Campbell asked at what point in the process is the impact issue considered to be concluded.

Linderholm reported that a draft of the Environmental Impact Statement should be completed by September, 1999. This statement will identify the various alignments, the process that narrowed the field of alignments, results of the environmental studies and will measure the impact, as perceived by the consulting team and sponsor agencies. The Environmental Impact Statement will then be submitted for review and comment to State and Federal agencies, as well as the public. He explained that once questions raised in the comments have been resolved to everyone's satisfaction, the Federal Highway Administration will be able to proceed with a "Record of Decision" and public hearing. This could take place as early as March or April, 2000.

In response to a question from Workman, Figard stated that the issue of the three routes, East Close, East Middle and East Far, will not be readdressed in the "Record of Decision".

Figard noted that if beltway opponents elect to file lawsuit, it will probably be at the stage that the Environmental Impact Statement is approved by the Federal Highway Administration and a "Record of Decision", that acknowledges that the process followed was acceptable and appropriate, is issued. It will then be the responsibility of the Federal Highway Administration to defend any lawsuits.

Campbell asked at what stage would the Federal Highway Administration indicate the presence of a "fatal flaw".

Figard responded the Federal Highway Administration would report a "fatal flaw" at any stage it becomes apparent or following its review of the Environmental Impact Statement.

Figard reported that the City Council will hold a public hearing and take formal action on the proposed Change Order on March 15th.

Board consensus to schedule action on the Change Order on the agenda for the March 23rd County Board of Commissioners Meeting.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- a. Microcomputer Request from Corrections Department, in the amount of \$1,250 for an Imaging Upgrade for Y2K Compliance

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Workman seconded approval of the request, from the Correction Department's Budget, with an adjustment to that budget at the end of the year, if necessary. On call Hudkins, Workman, Steinman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

- b. Microcomputer Request from County Treasurer, C#99058, in the amount of \$6,118.65 for 5 Compaq Deskpro Computers, from the County Treasurer's Budget

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Steinman seconded approval. On call Hudkins, Steinman, Workman and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

- c. Request from Sue Eckley, Workers' Compensation & Risk Management Manager, to Expend \$200 from the Wellness Budget for WorkWell Conference and Annual Meeting

MOTION: Steinman moved and Workman seconded approval. On call Steinman, Workman, Hudkins and Campbell voted aye. Motion carried.

4 ADJOURNMENT

By direction of the Chair, the meeting was adjourned.

Bruce Medcalf
Lancaster County Clerk